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LETTER DATED 6 FEBRUARY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On behalf of the European Union I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement by the Presidency of the European Union on the recent bombing in Colombo.

I should be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) F. Paolo FULCI
Ambassador

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the recent bombing in Colombo, issued on 6 February 1996 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union:

- Strongly condemns the recent bombing in Colombo which killed dozens of people and left dozens more injured, for there is no justification for targeting areas that are so heavily populated by civilians;

- Expresses its sympathy to the Government of Sri Lanka and to the families of the victims;

- Continues to support a negotiated peaceful political settlement of the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka;

- Believes that the wide-ranging proposals of the Government of Sri Lanka for constitutional reform, which will be presented to the Parliamentary Select Committee on constitutional reforms in the middle of this month, constitute a sound basis for a peaceful solution to this tragic conflict.